

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/087,987  
Attorney Ref. No.: 082137-0280712

### III. REMARKS

Claims 37, 45-47, and 50 are canceled, and claims 34-36, 38-44, 48, and 49 are amended.

Claims 37 and 45-47, which are directed to non-elected embodiments, are canceled without prejudice.

Claims 34-36 and 48 are amended by deleting references to a pre-malignant lesion, which is the subject matter of a non-elected species of the invention.

Claims 34 and 49 are also amended to indicate that the agent that blocks the activity of active matriptase to which part (d) of claim 34 refers is an antibody, as specified in canceled claim 50.

Claims 38-44 are amended to refer to the "detectable agent" of part (b) of claim 34 as a "detectable antibody," in order to clearly distinguish it from the antibody that blocks the activity of active matriptase of part (d) of claim 34.

Claim 41 is further amended by deleting reference to antibody M123, which is also the subject matter of a non-elected species of the invention.

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#### IV. CONCLUSION

If the examiner identifies any points that he feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

No official fees are believed to be due, however, please charge any fees associated with the submission of this response to Deposit Account Number 03-3975.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 14, 2005

By



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